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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: August 5, 2004 Name: Deanna L. Hasler

Signature:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Darin G. Schaeffer et al.

Appln. No.: 10/769,962

Filed: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND
LOADING DILATOR

Attorney Docket No: 10703/042

Examiner: Not Known

Art Unit: 3761

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form SB/08A, Copy of WO 01/83015 A1 (non-US cited reference)

Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

No additional fee is required.

Small Entity.

An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____.)

An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Not a Small Entity		
					Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9=			x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=			x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=			+\$290=	
					Total	\$	Total	\$	

Fee payment:

A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

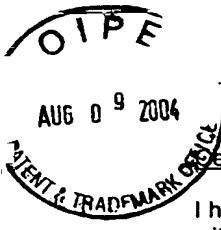
Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Aug 5, 2004
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence A. Steward (Reg. No. 32,309)



AUG 9 2004

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 5, 2004.

Deanna L. Hasler
Deanna L. Hasler

Our Case No.: 10703/042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 10/769,962

Group Art Unit No.: 3761

Filing Date: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND
LOADING DILATOR

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Examiner and made of record. In accordance with Publication Notice 1276 OG 55 dated August 5, 2003, copies of the listed U.S. documents are not enclosed.

The references now cited are the following:

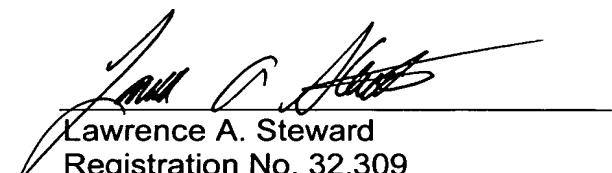
No.	Date	Name
WO 01/83015 A1	11/08/2001	Fauza
US 6,284,179 B1	09/04/2001	Deily et al.
US 5,067,496	11/26/1991	Eisele
US 4,649,913	03/17/1987	Watson

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence A. Steward
Registration No. 32,309
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/769,962
		Filing Date	February 2, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	10703/042

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.